- The Ministry should lay down the accounting procedure for the collections made by the Consumer Forums to ensure that the amounts realized as fee and deposits from the consumers and delinquent service providers are promptly deposited in the authorized destination accounts. This would prevent any risk of defalcation or abuse of the process of consumer grievance redressal.
- The Ministry in association with the National Commission may fix a threshold level of performance in terms of disposal of complaints and thereafter review the performance of the State Commissions and the District Forums.
- The Ministry may critically review the status of the infrastructure and staff strength in the State Commissions and the District Forums with a view to improving their position through State Governments.
- The Ministry should examine the necessity for reorganization of the Central Council by reducing its size to enhance its effectiveness and carefully monitor the outcomes of its meetings by instituting a mechanism so that its recommendations are acted upon in a time bound manner.
- The Ministry may, in close coordination with the State Governments encourage the State and District Councils to regularly conduct the meetings and monitor implementation of significant recommendations.
- The Ministry may persuade the State Governments to ensure that the decisions of the Commissions and District Forums are implemented promptly by discussing the requirements in appropriate high level meetings to impart a sense of urgency and importance to this vital requirement. Rationalization of the procedures and adequate empowerment of the consumer forums to ensure enforcement of their orders may be considered on priority.

Allocation of wheat and kerosene to States

†816. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government allocates wheat and kerosene to States on the basis of the number of people living below poverty line;

(b) if so, whether wheat and kerosene are being allocated to States on the basis of prescribed norms; and

(c) the details of the people living below poverty line alongwith the allocation of wheat and kerosene, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) to (c) Government of India allocates wheat and kerosene under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) to States/Union Territories (UTs) for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families.

Wheat: Allocation of foodgrains (including wheat) under the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) is made for Below Poverty Line (BPL) including Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) families on the basis of 1993-94 poverty estimates of the Planning Commission projected on the population

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

estimates of Registrar General of India, as on 1.3.2000 or the number of families actually identified and ration cards issued by State and UT Governments, whichever is less. Accordingly, allocations of foodgrains (including wheat) for BPL including AAY categories are made @35kg per family per month for all accepted number of 6.52 crore families in the country.

Kerosene: Allocation of kerosene is made by the Government of India to the States/Union Territories (UTs) on a quarterly basis for distribution under Public Distribution System (PDS). Government of India allocates kerosene to the States/UTs under the PDS on historical basis for the purposes of cooking and illumination only.

State-wise details of the number of people living below poverty line along with the existing allocations of wheat and kerosene (for 2008-09) are given in the Statement.

Statement

State-wise details of BPL families (Figures in Lacs) alongwith the allocation of Wheat during 2008-09 (monthly allocation in thousand tons), and Kerosene in first three quarters

(Quantity in MTs)

States/UTs	BPL (including AAY) families	Wheat (Allocation)	PDS Kerosene (Allocation)
1	2	3	4
Andhra Pradesh	40.63	0	387868
Arunachal Pradesh	0.99	0.256	6942
Assam	18.36	0	193505
Bihar	65.23	71.312	485572
Chhattisgarh	18.75	2.61	110203
Delhi	4.09	10.048	126363
Goa	0.48	0	14409
Gujarat	21.20	46.75	557819
Haryana	7.89	27.616	109214
Himachal Pradesh	5.14	10.28	37902
Jammu & Kashmir	7.36	5.943	50711
Jharkhand	23.94	25.963	158381
Karnataka	31.29	18.994	346108
Kerala	15.54	6.963	162231
Madhya Pradesh	41.25	125.772	366456
Maharashtra	65.34	117.504	957657

1	2	3	4
Manipur	1.66	0.106	14930
Meghalaya	1.83	0	15300
Mizoram	0.68	0	4662
Nagaland	1.24	0.843	9984
Orissa	32.98	0	236232
Punjab	4.68	16.378	177894
Rajasthan	24.31	85.085	299184
Sikkim	0.43	0	4186
Tamil Nadu	48.63	0	419196
Tripura	2.95	0	23124
Uttar Pradesh	106.79	147.018	931329
Uttarakhand	4.98	5.625	67386
West Bengal	51.79	72.474	564077
Andaman & Nicobar	0.28	0.082	4362
Chandigarh	0.23	0.034	8166
D & N Haveli	0.18	0.029	2086
Daman & Diu	0.04	0.012	1588
Lakshadweep	0.03	0	795
Puducherry	0.84	0	9192
TOTAL :	652.03	797,697	6865014

Source: The National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation

Price rise

817. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that continuously there is price rise of wheat, onion and oil etc.;

(b) if so, what steps Government is taking on urgent basis to effectively control the price-rise in the interest of common man;

(c) whether Government is considering to make available wheat, onion and oil etc. in retail stores, throughout the country to contain price rise; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?